



Fact Sheet: California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) was created by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. to serve as California's single point of contact for economic development and job creation efforts. GO-Biz offers a range of services to business owners including: attraction, retention and expansion services, site selection, permit streamlining, clearing of regulatory hurdles, small business assistance, international trade development, assistance with state government, and much more.

Business Development

The Business Investment Services Unit works with companies to expand their presence in California by streamlining the site selection process and offsetting the cost of doing business with the use of local, state and federal incentives. Our team of veteran economic development professionals worked with hundreds of companies last year to assist in the creation and/or retention of over 6,000 jobs and over \$750 million in capital expenditures.

Permit Streamlining

The Permit Assistance unit provides permit streamlining for business owners struggling with local, state and federal permitting for major job creating projects. For example, our team recently streamlined over 300 permits in just under 6 weeks for a regional restaurant franchise saving them significant time and money.

Small Business Assistance

The Small Business unit provides direct small business assistance to thousands of business each year with the help of our regional partners at the Small Business Development Centers. Over 95 percent of the +3500 assistance inquiries GO-Biz receives each year are from small business owners.

Encouraging Innovation and Entrepreneurship

GO-Biz administers the state Innovation Hub (iHub) program which includes 12 iHubs stretching from Chico to San Diego. These regional innovation clusters bring together government, academia, and business to further enhance California's entrepreneurial ecosystem thru the promotion innovation as a community building and job creation tool. In 2011, three of the 12 iHub opened their first Innovation Incubators designed to expedite the commercialization of new technologies and businesses.

International Affairs and Trade Development

The International Affairs and Trade Development unit provides critical support on issues relating to international trade and investment opportunities, foreign relations, international agreements and partnerships with the countries that have a friendly relationship with California. The unit collaborates with federal, local and international partners to identify and assist small to medium size companies in developing markets abroad for their products and services.

For more information or to Contact a Business Specialist, please visit our website: www.business.ca.gov or call (916) 322-0694.

California Business Climate by the Numbers

Over 240,300 new jobs were added in California since 2011 began, which is more than any other state in the nation. (*California Employment Development Department*)

1 out of every 6 jobs created nationwide was created in California in the last year. (*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*)

No. 1 state for attracting foreign direct investment.
(*International Trade Association*)

3.5 million small businesses account for 99% of the state's firms and employ 52% of the workforce. (*U.S. Small Business Administration*)

931,000 people employed in high tech jobs.

Most in the U.S.- Texas No.2 with 492,000 and New York No. 3 with 312,000. (*Tech America Annual Report*)

300,000 Californians employed in high paying green jobs, second to high-tech.
(*California Employment Development Department*)

No.1 state for venture capital (VC)

California receives four times more venture capital than the national average. (*Moneytree*)

2,224 biomedical companies in California employ 268,000 people.

The industry accounts for \$114 billion in annual revenues – which is more than the annual gross state product of 18 U.S. states.
(*California Health Institute*)

With \$34.8 billion in revenue representing 12.3 percent of the U.S. total, California is the No. 1 state in for agriculture revenues.
(*California Department of Food and Agriculture*)